

# **OREGON'S ACTS, CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL COLLABORATION AND IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

## **SPR 671**

### **Problem Statement**

Commuting, freight movement, and other transportation patterns routinely cross multiple jurisdictions and go beyond the boundaries of existing regional planning structures. This situation makes it difficult for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to respond to travel-shed issues with effective transportation strategies.

Oregon's Area Commissions on Transportation (ACTs) were created 10 years ago, in part, to broaden the regional transportation perspective, to improve communications between the public and private sectors, and to improve coordination of state highway project prioritization across jurisdictions. It is important to determine how ACTs have functioned and whether they have realized their potential.

The current scope, authority and geography of the ACTs do not always correspond to existing travel patterns and transportation corridors. In addition, there is a growing need to determine the appropriate relationship of the ACTs to the MPOs and to improve collaboration and coordination among the ACTs.

### **Objectives of the Study**

- Assess the current role and experience of ACTs and MPOs, and their interactions with each other, in addressing travel-shed, cross-jurisdictional and cross-sector (public-private) issues.
- Research best practices (including collaborative processes and governance approaches) in Oregon and elsewhere in the nation for effectively bridging jurisdictional and institutional barriers.
- Develop and assess options (in both policy and process) available to ODOT, ACTs, and MPOs for improving coordination of transportation and land use across jurisdictions, corridors and travel-sheds.